



GAU 1143

Patent
Attorney Docket No. 043601/0110

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#7
9-15-99

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: JOHN FRANCIS
GORDON
Serial No.: 09/284,421
Filed: June 11, 1999
International Filing Date: October 8, 1997
For: APPARATUS AND METHOD
FOR CONDUCTING ASSAYS

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on

August 20, 1999

Worie Johnson
WORIE Name JOHNSON

August 20, 1999
Date of Signature

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and 1.97(b), Applicant brings to the attention of the Examiner the documents listed on the attached PTO-1449. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed prior to receipt of the first Office Action. Copies of the cited references are enclosed. Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner consider the listed documents, and evidence that consideration of relevant portions thereof by making appropriate notations on the attached form.

It is believed that these references either taken alone or in combination do not disclose or suggest the invention claimed by the Applicant. However, it is the Applicant's desire to have these references available in the record for both the Examiner and the public to see. The

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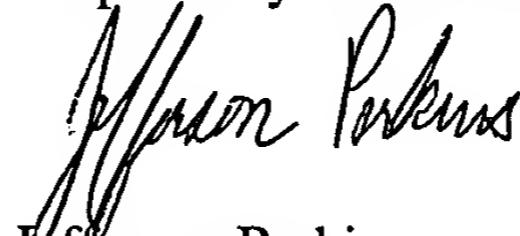
Applicant specifically reserves all rights of privilege and confidence with respect to this matter and submission of this document is not to be construed as a waiver of those rights. Moreover, submission of this document should not be considered an admission that the references cited herein are proper prior art to the aforementioned application.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If it should be determined that the listed document does not constitute "prior art" under United States law, Applicant reserves the right to present to the Office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such document.

Applicant further reserves the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed document, should the document be applied against the claims of the present application.

No fee is thought to be due for the submission of this statement. However, if any fees are due, please deduct them from Deposit Account No. 06-1450 of Foley & Lardner.

Respectfully submitted,



Jefferson Perkins
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August 19, 1999